

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ALA Midwinter Meeting, February 1-5. Two major parts of the Meeting were attended by the President as the NCLA representative: the Workshop for Library Association Officers and the Council sessions. The Workshop was very helpful because of the suggestions made for planning conferences and organizing exhibits. The Illinois Library Association has prepared a Conference manual which our Executive Board will study in making plans for the 1955 Conference.

The Council passed, subject to ratification by the Membership of ALA at the Minneapolis Conference, the long-debated Chapter Article of the By-Laws. This is a long Article which cannot be reproduced here, but members may read it in a forthcoming issue of the ALA Bulletin. The effect of this Article upon state chapters will be explained to the associations when the ALA Executive Board has worked out procedures following the action of Council at the 1954 Conference in Minneapolis. The Article will not be in effect until it is ratified.

Committee Appointments. Two additional Committees, Scholarship Loan Fund and Constitution and Codes, have been organized since the last issue of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES was printed and a few changes made in other Committee memberships.

March 20 Meeting of the Executive Board, Committee Members, Section Officers, and Representatives of NCLA. Sixty-five members were able to attend this meeting for planning the work of the Association for the biennium. The President reported on the Midwinter Meeting and announced new committees. Katharine McDiarmid read the paragraphs of the new Constitution which directly concern the relationship between the Board, the Committees and the Sections, after which a discussion was held on the Constitution. It was pointed out that there are no Standing Committees and that Committees should plan their work so that it can be completed within the biennium, if possible. Reports should include recommendations about whether the Committee should be continued in the next biennium. Members of the Executive Board were asked to be liaison members of each one of the Committees. It was noted also that Section Officers should file with the Association Recording Secretary their important papers: Minutes, Financial Reports, Reports on Workshops, special meetings, etc. The Treasurer, Marianna Long, explained the budget for the biennium. Hallie Bacelli commented on the plans for observing the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Association this year: the binding of the past records and the special issue of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES. B. E. Powell reported on plans for the membership vote authorized at the 1953 Conference. After lunch the Committees, Sections and the Executive Board met separately for business meetings. The Board voted to hold the mail ballot on membership before the end of this year. The Junior College Section was recognized as a Section. At the joint session following the separate meetings the Committees and Sections reported on their plans for activities. It was suggested that the Executive Board call a similar meeting next spring for hearing progress reports of the groups and for planning the 1955 Conference.

State Legislative Council. The tentative program of the Council for the 1955 Legislature has been sent to member associations for their adoption or rejection. The items in the program this year are (1) Provide an adequate appropriation for employment of attendance workers with state supervision for improving school attendance and for the enforcement of the compulsory school attendance law; (2) Provide for a minimum wage law; (3) Extend the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court to children 16 years of age; (4) Provide for an appropriation for the employment of a coordinator or supervisor of alcoholic and narcotic education in public schools under the Department of Public Instruction; and (5) Provide legislation calling for reorganization of the State Prison System with specific reference to the separation of the State Prison Department from the State Highway and Public Works Commission. NCLA action must be taken by the Executive Board since the Association does not meet again until 1955. When the program has been approved another report will be made to the Association through NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES.

CHARLESANNA FOX